

## CONCERNING GERRIS REMIGIS SAY.

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April 4 at Alpine, N. J., I collected seven specimens of this species for breeding. They fed readily on spiders of the family Theridiidæ, the only food I could get at the time. Later I tried a species of Drassidæ, but it was too powerful. The *Gerris* abandoned the attack and allowed the prey to escape. First copulation was observed April 11 among the four survivors, three having drowned. Four had gone to the bottom of the jar containing them. I laid one on a blotter to be pinned. A few hours later I found it moving its legs feebly. When it recovered I put it back in the aquarium. After a square meal it seemed as vigorous as ever.

Copulation was a sort of continuous process. April 19 I discovered five eggs on the side of the aquarium; next day two more deposited on a straw. The eggs were placed in a separate vessels for observation. The first young emerged in seventeen days, imperfectly developed, unable to expand, and it died next day by drowning. The next hatched May 8, and next day had its first meal, a *Drosophila ampelophila*, of which I had bred numbers for feeding. It was very amusing to watch the *Gerris* attack the prey much larger than itself. It would jump around from side to side, apparently looking for the best place for attack. It finally landed quickly as eye could follow, jumped away with equal rapidity, repeating a number of times, inserting its beak each time, the fly becoming weaker and finally offering no resistance.

May 15 first cast skin found floating. May 22 the second; and food hereafter was a small microlepidopteron. May 31 third exuvia; June 9 fourth; June 24 fifth and a perfect imago, wingless of wingless parents.